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(71) Applicant(s)
Gary Buckett
8a Dunheved Road West, THORNTON HEATH, Surrey,
CR7 6AP, United Kingdom

(72) Inventor(s)
Gary Buckett

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service
Gary Buckett
8a Dunheved Road West, THORNTON HEATH, Surrey,
CR7 6AP, United Kingdom

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(54) Folding Table

(57) A folding table has a top which folds in half. Attached to the underside of the top is an arrangement of folding legs which fold flat so as to allow the top to fold. When erect the arrangement of legs form two rigid crossmembers which support the top. When folded the top forms a shallow box which encloses the folded legs.

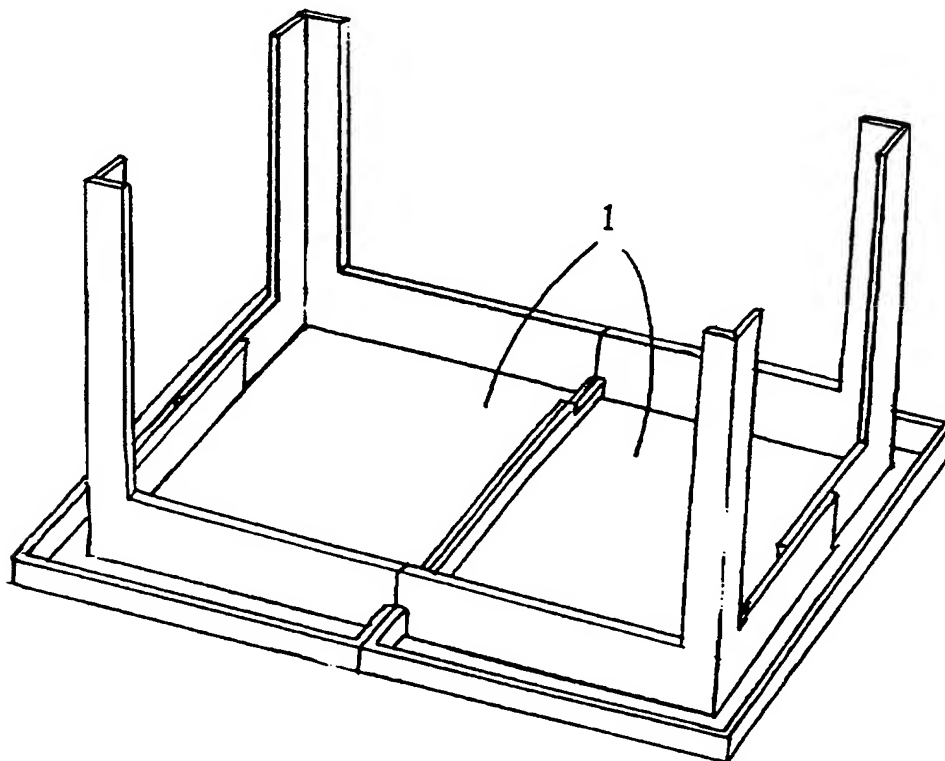


Fig 2

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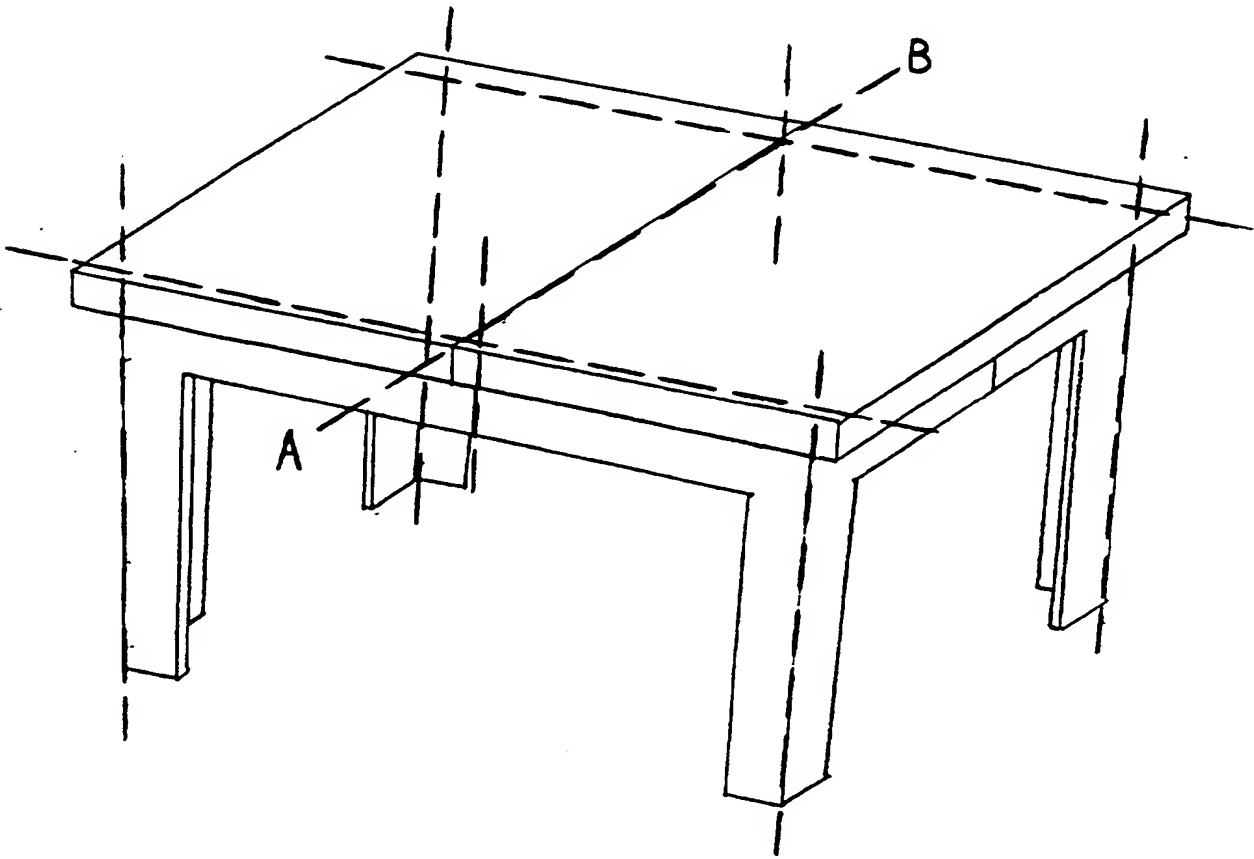


Fig 1

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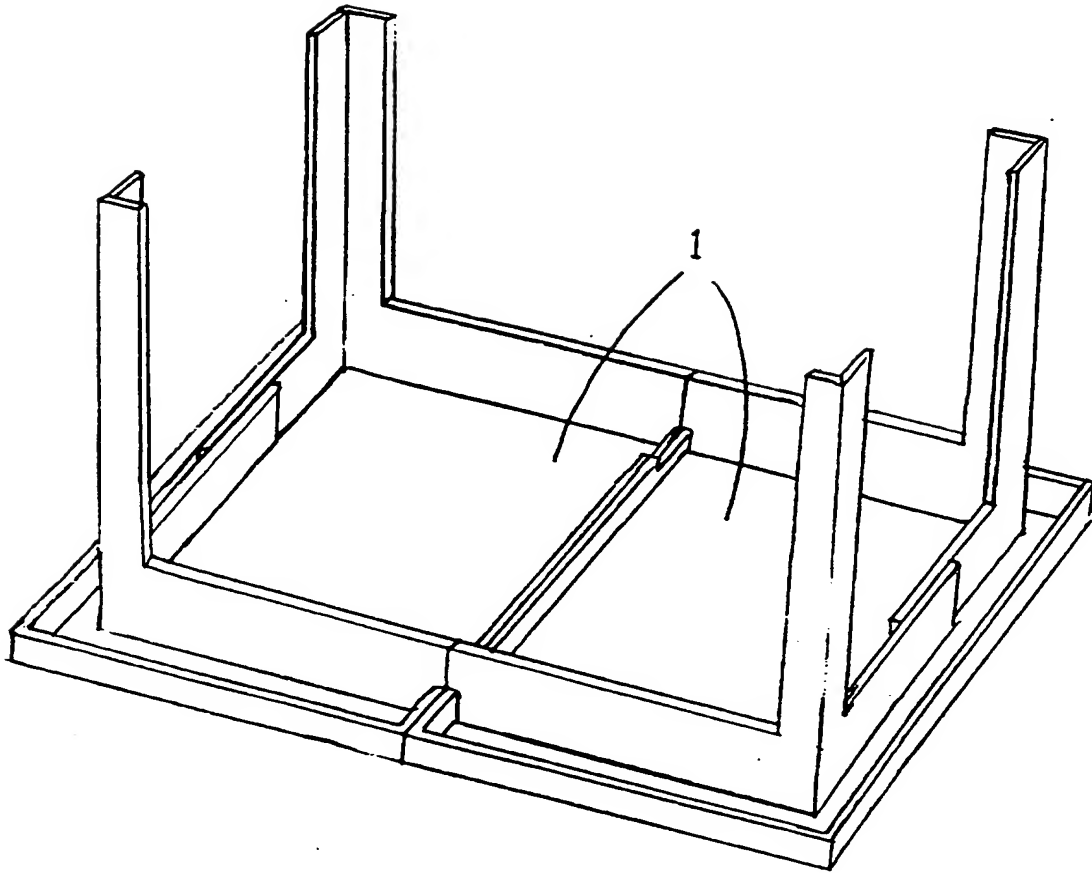


Fig 2

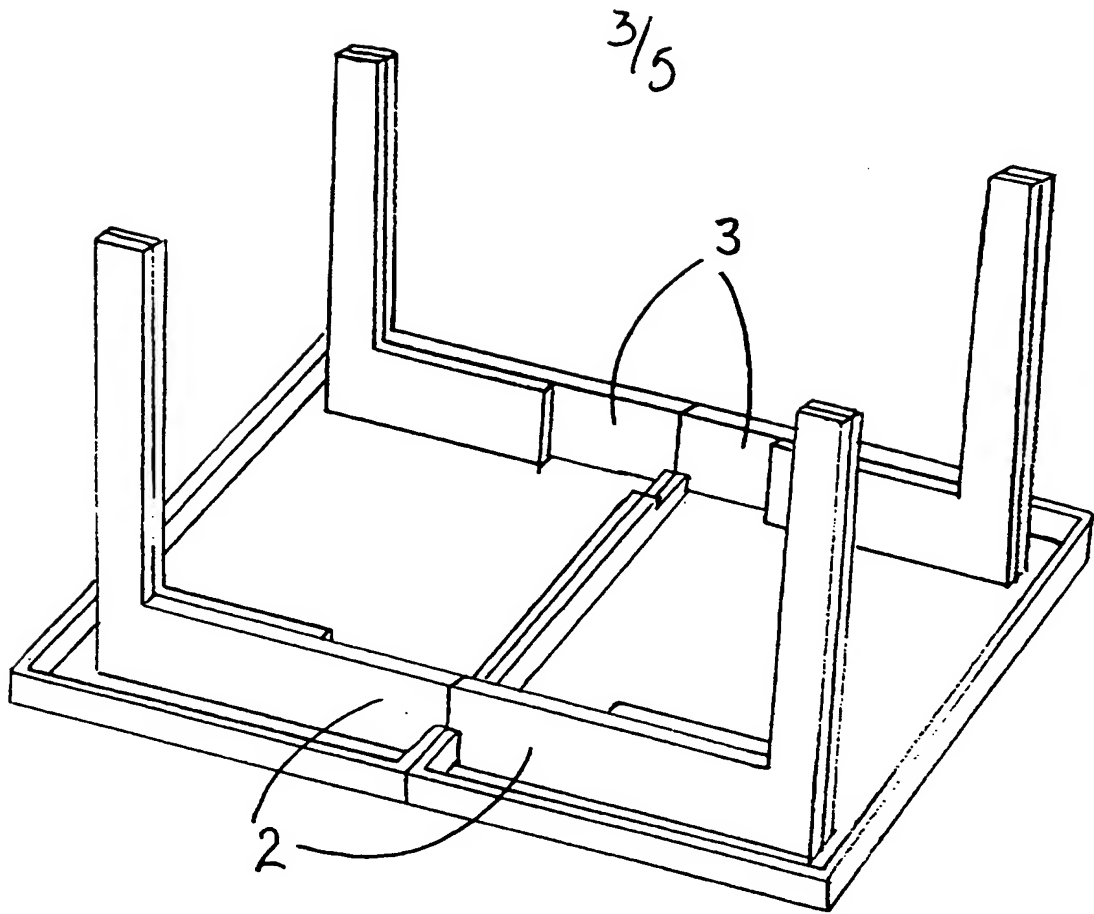


Fig 3

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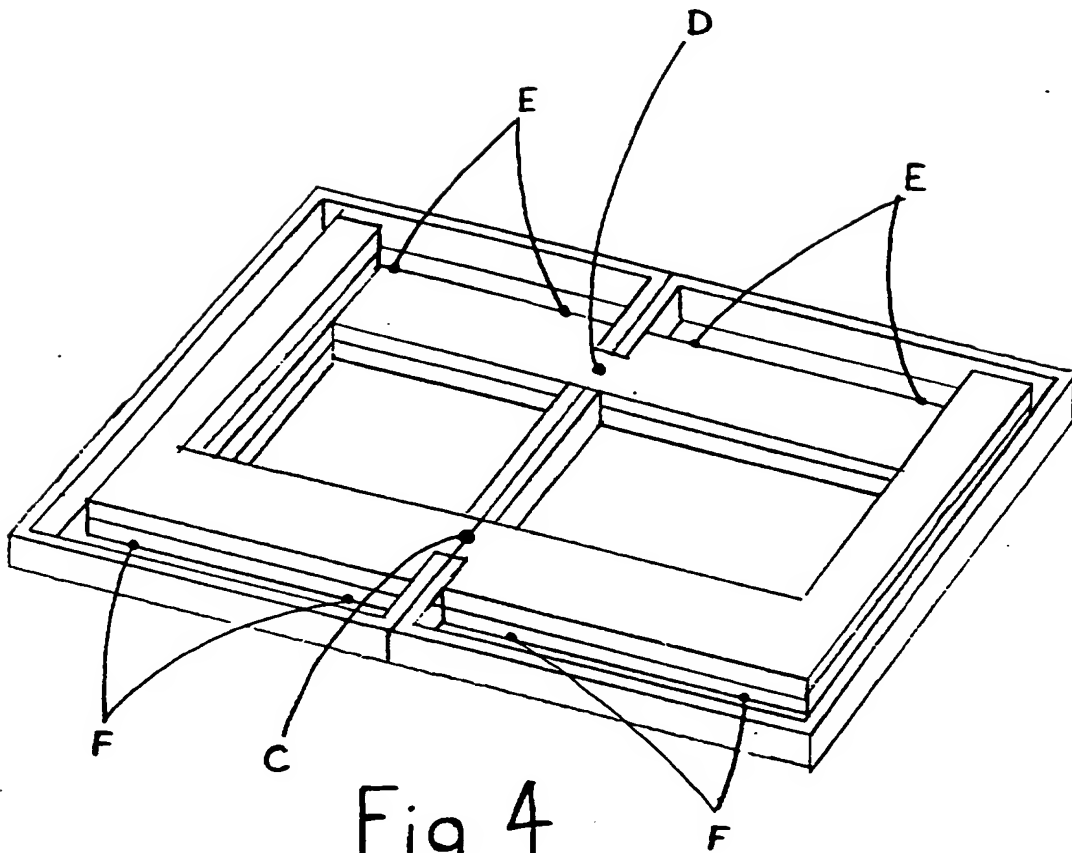


Fig 4

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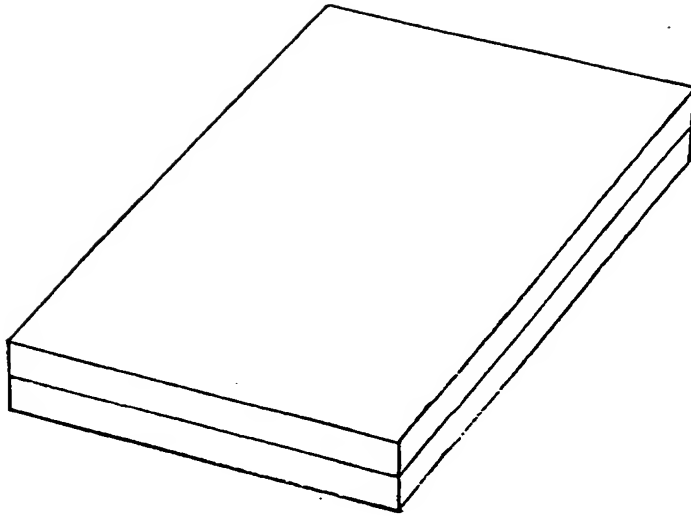


Fig 5

FOLDING TABLE

This invention relates to a folding table.

Folding tables comprise a table top with legs that either detach or fold to ease storage and / or transportation. In some cases the top folds to enhance both of these functions. However, splitting the top in such a manner reduces the overall strength and stability of the table.

According to the present invention there is provided a table top which folds in half and an arrangement of four folding legs. When folded the top forms a shallow box which encloses the folded legs. The arrangement of legs comprise eight 'L' shaped flat sections. Each leg comprises two such sections. The legs are joined at two points, by hinges, to form two pairs. Each pair of legs is aligned perpendicular to the folding line of the top so as to form a rigid crossmember when erect.

A specific embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawing in which:-

Figure 1. Shows in perspective, the table erected.

Figure 2. Shows in perspective, the underside of the table erected.

Figure 3. Shows the legs part folded.

Figure 4. Shows the legs fully folded.

Figure 5. Shows the table fully folded.

Referring to the drawing the table comprises a folding top (1.) which is in two parts joined by a hinge at line A - B.

Fixed to the underside of the top is an arrangement of four folding legs. Hinges at points C. and D. connect the legs into two pairs, (2) and (3), forming two crossmembers which support the top.

Each leg comprises two 'L' shaped flat sections joined together by a hinge which runs down the length of the leg. The legs can therefore be folded flat as shown in Figure (3.) Hinges at points E. and offset hinges at points F. allow the legs to then fold flat as shown in Figure (4.). This enables the top to be folded to form a shallow box enclosing the legs as shown in Figure (5.).

To erect the table the steps described above are carried out in reverse sequence.

C L A I M S

- (1). A folding table comprising a top which folds in half and an arrangement of four collapsable legs, each leg comprising two 'L' shaped sections, with the legs linked together to form two pairs, each pair forming a rigid crossmember running perpendicular to the folding line of the top.
- (2). A folding table as claimed in Claim (1), where the two 'L' shaped sections that make each leg are joined together by a hinge which runs down the length of the leg enabling the leg to fold flat.
- (3). A folding table substantially as described herein with reference to Figures (1)-(5). of the accompanying drawing.

Relevant Technical Fields

(i) UK Cl (Ed.N) A4L: LBPF; LBPG; LBPH, LBPJ; LBPK;
LBPL

(ii) Int Cl (Ed.6) A47B

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Databases (see below)

(i) UK Patent Office collections of GB, EP, WO and US patent specifications.

(ii) WPI

Documents considered relevant following a search in respect of Claims :-
1-3

Categories of documents

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Category	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)
X	GB 941862 (SANCHEZ)	1, 2

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